

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 494

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to honor First Sergeant James R. Lewis on the occasion of his retirement from teaching.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to a true professional whose contributions to education and his community reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, First Sergeant (1SG) James R. Lewis, U.S. Army (Retired), is taking a much deserved retirement from his position as the Army Instructor at Northwest High School in Clarksville on June 30, 2017, having faithfully served the United States Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Program in the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System (CMCSS) for more than twenty years; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to the cadets under his tutelage has been unwavering; in recognition of his service and accomplishments, the United States Army has awarded him the Commander's Award for Public Service; and

WHEREAS, from his first day on duty, he has been a valued member of the CMCSS faculty and the district's JROTC team, and he has positively shaped the thinking and futures of hundreds of cadets through his leadership, mentoring, and coaching; and

WHEREAS, First Sergeant Lewis began his illustrious JROTC career at Northwest in August 1997 and has served as its Army Instructor ever since, contributing significantly to the accomplishment of the Cadet Command's mission and to the success of the program; and

WHEREAS, 1SG Lewis has trained and mentored more than 2,000 cadets on the JROTC curriculum, supervised more than 100 service learning projects, and participated in nineteen AFI inspections, maintaining Honor Unit with Distinction classification; and

WHEREAS, renowned for his inspired leadership and instruction, he has coached the JROTC Program's Drill Team, Rifle Team, and Raider Team and Northwest's wrestling squad; and

WHEREAS, 1SG Lewis has led Northwest's cadets to seven Air Rifle National Championship titles, a third-place finish at the Raider Nationals, and sixth-place honors at the All Services Drill Nationals; and

WHEREAS, he has spent more than 500 hours in support of community service projects, rendering valuable assistance to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Domestic Violence Program, Clarksville Association for Down Syndrome, Mana Café Food Pantry, Buffalo Soldiers, VFW, and many other organizations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor First Sergeant James R. Lewis, U.S. Army (Retired), for his exemplary service as the Army Instructor at Northwest High School, salute his many contributions to the JROTC Program, and wish him a happy and fulfilling retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.